

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 EUR-12 /091 W
-----000140 062045Z /65

R 051750Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8322
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMCONSUL BELIZE
FNFO RUESAL/AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR 3233
AMEMBASSY TECCCIGALQP
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 3585

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR BH GT CS
SUBJ: VISITS OF BELIZE OFFICIALS AND GUATEMALAN FORMIN TO COSTA
RICA

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. COSTA RICA RECEIVED WELL PUBLICIZED VISITS THIS WEEK OF BELIZE'S

ATTORNEY GENERAL ASSAD SHOMAN AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE SANTIAGO PERDOMO, AND OF GUATEMALAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADOLFO MOLINA. IN PRESS CONFERENCES, PUBLIC STATEMENTS, AND REPORTEDLY IN OFFICIAL CALLS, EACH SIDE SAID PRETTY MUCH WHAT THE COSTA RICANS EXPETED THEM TO.

2. SHOMAN AND PERDOMO CALLED ON FORMIN FACIO AND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT SOLEY, AND NOTED PUBLICLY THAT THE COSTA RICAN OFFICIALS RECEIVED THEM "WITH MUCH UNDERSTANDING." IN THEIR PUBLIC STATEMENTS THEY REITERATED KNOWN BELIZE POSITIONS ABOUT THE CON-
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FLICT (NO TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS, GUARANTEE OF CARIBBEAN ACCESS FOR GUATEMALA, FREE TRANSIT THROUGH PETEN TO BELIZE, GUARANTEE THAT BELIZE WOULD NOT BE USED AS BASE TO ATTACK GUATEMALA, SUPPORT IN UN). COSTA RICA MEDIA GAVE EMPHASIS TOBELIZE'S REPORTED PLANS TO FORM AN ARMY AND TO SHOMAN'S DISMISSAL OUT OF HAND OF GUATEMALAN FEAR THAT CUBA COULD USE BELIZE AS BEACHHEAD IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

3. ADOLFO MOLINA SPENT A GOOD DEAL OF TIME WITH FORMIN FACIO, AND ALSO MET WITH PRESIDENT ODUBER. MOLINA EMPHASIZED IN HIS AUGUST 3 PRESS CONFERENCE THAT GUATEMALA'S FIGHT IS AGAINST THE UK, NOT THE BELIZEANS. HE AFFIRMED THAT GUATEMALA'S POSITION IS "CONCILIATORY" AND THE UK'S IS "OBSTINATE", THAT HE BELIVES THAT A PECEFUL SOLUTION CAN BE ACHIEVED, AND THAT "WHAT THE UN SAYS ABOUT THIS PRO-

BLEM IS NOT VALID FOR GUATEMALA AS THE UN IS NOT A COMPETENT FORUM, BUT RATHER A POLITICAL ONE." MOLINA DISMISSED THE NOTION THAT BELIZE HAS OIL (THE BELIZEANS SAID THEY HAD THEIR HOPES).

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4. COMMENT: IN COMMENTS TO AMBASSADOR AND POLOFF FACIO CHARACTER-

IZED MOLINA'S POSITION AS "MODERATE" AND NOTED ESPECIALLY THAT HE NO LONGER IS VOICING THE "BELIZE IS OURS" LINE. FACIO ALSO CONFIDED THAT HE TALKED TOUGH TO SHOMAN ABOUT SHOMAN'S OPEN CONTACTS WITH UNSPECIFIED-LEFTIST" GROUPS IN COSTA RICA. FACIO SAID THAT HE TOLD SHOMAN THAT HIS CONTACT AND IDENTIFICATION WITH SUCH ANTI-ODUBER GOVERNMENT ELEMENTS HURTS BELIZE'S IMAGE, MAKES IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR THE GOCR TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN TERMS OF LOCAL POLITICS IN THE GUATEMALA-BELIZE DISPUTE, AND EVENTUALLY WILL HURT BELIZE'S CAUSE. FACIO SAID THAT THE HOPED SHOMAN GOT THE MESSAGE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
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Sent Date: 05-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1697222
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISITS OF BELIZE OFFICIALS AND GUATEMALAN FORMIN TO COSTA RICA BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, PDEV, BH, GT, CS, (SHOMAN, ASSAD), (PERDOMO, SANTIAGO), (MOLINA ORANTES, ADOLFO)
To: STATE GUATEMALA
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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